

LIVING STREETS

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

Living Streets Guernsey LBG Local Group Newsletter— July 2018

BUG and Living Streets join up on “Bus Walk Bus” event

This year we tried a new event during May walking month. Devised by Tom Le Pelley, the idea was to promote bus use linked to a relaxing country walk. Taking the bus and walking gives you a chance to de-stress and appreciate the wild flowers on Guernsey’s hedge banks and the plants and flowers in the gardens along the route. The walk started at Lesbirel’s veg stall in Route de Plaisance and went through the lanes and green lanes of St. Pierre du Bois and the Forest.

Sadly the turnout was disappointing—not helped by a road closure, meaning buses were diverted. Those of us who took part, however, enjoyed discovering new lanes.



Tom Le Pelley & Fergus Dunlop (back) lead the walk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tranquillity Walk 2018
Sunday 16th September

“Bright Day”
Friday 26th October 2018

Road Safety Week
19th November 2018

Bus Shelters

The Active Travel Unit is calling for suggestions for new bus shelters. We had suggested they needed more and asked why they couldn’t get them sponsored. However, apparently there is a fund put aside to pay for shelters.

If you have any suggestions please get in touch with Tim Prout (timprout@gov.gg).

We have made several suggestions. You need to bear in mind that there is (a) space for a shelter (5.2m x 3.2m) and (b) that it is a well used bus stop.

We are pleased to see the shelter at the top of the Grange has finally been replaced.

Better communication with Environment & Infrastructure



Les Petites Fontaines

Following our AGM last year it was agreed that we would have quarterly meetings with the E&I Board. At our first meeting in February we discussed two main issues—the development of more zebra or light controlled crossings and the development of one way systems where roads were so narrow that vehicles were “pavement surfing”.

Our No. 1 priority for a crossing is from Belmont Road across Queen’s Road. This is a well used pedestrian route down to Town via Les Petites Fontaines. It is used by commuters and parents and children to the primary schools in the area.

Traffic and Highway Services bring out new Ruettes Tranquilles guide

We are really pleased to see that the Ruettes Tranquilles booklet has been re published. Ruettes Tranquilles were originally developed in early 2000 but the booklet hadn’t been available for some years. The first parish to take part was Castel, then other parishes joined in. It is sad to see that St. Pierre du Bois and Torteval are still not included.

The new maps show the network in each parish in green and a link path in purple showing where networks can join up.



Rue du Moulin, St. Saviour

Priority is given for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders, and the lanes have a recommended speed limit of 15mph for motor vehicles.

An interactive mobile application is available to download free for Android, Windows and Apple equipped devices. (Please ensure that location services are activated on your device). You can also find cycle tour routes and all of the main cycle parking locations. You can use the app on the move without internet connection.

Reduced speed limits around Local Centres

Living Streets fully supports the new proposals for reduced speed limits around local centres. This is good news for pedestrians. It makes sense to reduce the speed of vehicles approaching these busy centres.

It was our chair, Tom Le Pelley, who, while in the States, managed to get agreement on the 25mph speed limits around our schools.

L'Aumone is a good example of how this will benefit pedestrians. There is a surgery, a Co-op Locale, a Dementia Care home and a large housing estate, all on the 35mph Cobo Road. The zebra crossing has seen several accidents. Most of the 80 roads mentioned are small roads around the centres.



Braye Road—Vale School Walking Audit 2002

Our pavements are very narrow, and as the photo shows, often not wide enough for a parent and child to walk side by side. You feel very vulnerable especially when walking with your back to traffic.

We need more one way systems



We know that developing one way systems is expensive but we really feel that it's time to look seriously at some of our most dangerous roads where motorists are regularly driving on the pavement, endangering pedestrians. We have suggested Collings Road as a possible example, since there is a one way system already in the area.

The pictures show before and after the one way system with cycle

contra flow in Baubigny Road. This was developed in 2008 and cost £100,00. There was considerable opposition at the time, but who would argue today that it wasn't the right decision to ensure the safety of pedestrians and cyclists going to school?

Bailiff's Cross Road is extremely hazardous and there are several other roads as well.

GBG and Living Streets are united on this issue.

Housing Development Plans

We are concerned about the number of housing developments that are being proposed for the north of the island. We always scrutinise them with pedestrian safety in mind.

If you follow us on Facebook you will see that we often oppose these developments—particularly when they are adjacent to small lanes.

Facebook: Living Streets Guernsey

Our 2019 Calendar



NEWS IN BRIEF

Cambridgeshire adopts the Safe System

A key element of the plan is the new “road safety hub” will bring together expertise across disciplines to provide one high profile point of contact for road safety information and advice—and improve the presentation of data and information to the public. The hub will provide child road safety education, investigating collision hot-spots and safety auditing for planned changes to roads. (Roadsafe March 2018)

Driver Offender courses broadened

More than 1.4 million drivers attended offender retraining courses in 2017 in the UK. This is the highest number on record and a million more than attended in 2010. The National Offender Training Scheme is considered to be the most effective way of reducing risk. (RAC Foundation)

NGO leaders across Africa unite for safe school zones

NGO leaders from 9 countries (Benin, Botswana, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Mozambique, Ghana, Tanzania, Namibia and Zambia) have agreed an advocacy action plan for safe school zones across the region. They have agreed country specific strategies to deliver safe journeys to school by the end of 2019. (Roadsafe July 2018)

New mobile phone detection signs trialled in Norfolk

Norfolk County Council are trialling road signs that detect when drivers are using a mobile phone. Using the latest technology, the unit is able to identify what type of signal is being transmitted or received by the handset and whether it is being used via the Bluetooth system. When the relevant signal is detected indicating that a mobile phone is being used in the vehicle (not via Bluetooth), the road sign is activated as the vehicle passes, giving a specific flashing visual message that will prompt a driver to stop using his phone.

Road Safety Week 2018

Bike Smart is this year's message. More than a third of people killed or seriously injured on the roads in the UK are on two wheels.